

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANAGU 02809 192132Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00
SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 INR-10 PA-02 SP-02 HA-05
TRSE-00 AID-05 OMB-01 SS-15 L-03 /058 W
-----128425 192136Z /62

O P 192043Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 6902
INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSYOOAN SALVADOR PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY CARACAS PRIORITY

UNCLAS MANAGUA 2809

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PORG, PINT, PGOV, SHUM, NU
SUBJECT: SOMOZA PRESS CONFERENCE: 19 JUNE

REF: MANAGUA 2793

1. IN A WIDE-RANGING PRESS CONFERENCE CARRIED LIVE ON ALL RADIO STATIONS, SOMOZA, IN EFFECT, INDICATED THAT THE GON WOULD INVITE THE IAHRC TO VISIT NICARAGUA (REFTEL) SOMOZA DECLARED THAT THE GON "COULD NOT REFUSE" A REQUEST BY THE IAHRC FOR A VISIT, AND HE SAID HE UNDERSTOOD THE IAHRC WAS INTERESTED IN SUCH A VISIT. HE DECLARED THE GON'S WILLINGNESS TO COMPLETELY COOPERATE WITH THE IAHRC.

2. DURING A QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD, SOMOZA INDICATED THAT THE GON WAS STUDYING THE POSSIBILITY OF RATIFYING THE INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND SAID HE THOUGH THE GON POSITION WOULD BE FAVORABLE. REPLYING TO QUESTIONS, HE RREPEATED SIS STAND THAT AMNESTY FOR POLITICAL OPPONENTS WAS NEGOTIABLE WITH THE OPPOSITION AND THAT THE TWELVE WERE SIMPLY CITIZENS WHO WERE FREE TO RETURN TO NICARAGUA ANYTIME THEY CHOSE.

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3. IN AN INTERESTING COMMENT DURING HIS OPENING REMARKS, SOMOZA INDICATED HIS BELIEF THAT THE RECENT PASSAGE OF PROPOSITION 13TUN CALIFORNIA (THE JARVIS-GANN TAX INITIATIVE) PRE-SAGED A GENERAL MOVEMENT WHOSE ULTIMATE RESULT WOULD BE A DECLINE IN US FOREIGN AID. HE SAID NICARAGUA HAD TO PREPARE FOR THIS EVENTUALITY AND THE GON WAS STUDYING THE POSSIBILITY OF NEW TAXES.

4. TRANSMISSION OF PRESS CONFERENCE WAS INTERRUPTED SEVERAL TIMES
BY STATIC, BUT THE ABOVE REPRESENTS THE MOST SIGNIFICANT POINTS
AS HEARD. EMBASSY WILL STUDY THE TRANSCRIPT WHEN IT IS AVAILABLE
AND REPORT ANY FURTHER SIGNIFICANT POINTS AND LOCAL REACTION.
TUCKER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Status: NATIVE
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TAGS: PORG, PINT, PGOV, SHUM, NU
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